

The American

DEVOTED TO POLITICS, LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, NEWS, AND GENERAL MISCELLANY.

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C. W. FETTER,
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PROSPECTUS OF THE WASHINGTON AMERICAN.

We can hardly think it necessary to urge upon those who hold that Americans ought to rule America, the importance of having a paper at the seat of the Federal Government, which shall enunciate and advocate the doctrines of the American party.

A paper issued from any of the great centres of a nation, but especially from the political Metropolis, in the present age, is in this country only, but in Great Britain, France, and wherever there is the least freedom of discussion, is a medium through which the holding similar sentiments in regard to public affairs and public policy, may make known, discuss and defend their views, and expose the impropriety of the principles, and the impolicy of the measures of their antagonists. It should earnestly labor to give a proper direction to public opinion by enlightening the public mind.

The American is the only paper published at the seat of the Federal Government which advocates American doctrines; the only sentinel of the party stationed where a near and clear view can be had of the movements and doings of their opponents at their headquarters. Here political information concentrates, and from hence it radiates to every part of the empire; here party measures and movements are determined, and political campaigns planned; here strategists are concocted and thwarted, and here at certain seasons of the year politicians most do congregate; here, in short, is the centre of the great political maelstrom in which so many thousands are constantly plunging and forever gyrating.

If the American party is desirous of being a national party, it should not be without a paper here through which it can make known to all people its views, aims and opinions, and which shall also refute the calumnies that are from time to time uttered against it through ignorance or a less excusable motive; and we, therefore, take upon the American, standing, as it will stand, upon the platform of the American party, advocating, as it will advocate, the paramount rights of native-born citizens, eschewing, as it will eschew, all interference with slavery as a national concern, and maintaining, as it will maintain, perfect freedom of opinion and of conscience in religion, will find favor in the eyes of all truly patriotic citizens in the land, and commend itself to their generous support.

Let me not have been specific enough in declaring our principles, we add, that the FAREWELL ADDRESS of the Father of his country, as illustrated by the broad light of his administration, is our political text-book and rule; and shall be our compass and chart.

Some people are never contented with their lot, let what will happen. Clouds and darkness are over their head, alike whether it rain or shine. To them every incident is an accident, and every accident a calamity. Even when they have their own way, they like it no better than your way, and, indeed, consider their most voluntary acts as matters of compulsion.

A child about three years old was crying because his mother had shut the parlor door. "Poor thing!" said a neighbor, compassionately, "you have shut the child out."

"It's all the same to him," said the mother; "he would cry if I called him in and then shut the door. It's a peculiar way of that boy, that if he is left rather suddenly on either side of a door, he considers himself shut out, and rebels accordingly."

There are older children who take the same view of things.

"Julius" is evidently well acquainted with the diagnoses of his own disease. His explanation is as clear as mud, and must be satisfactory to all.

"Julius, is you better dis morning?" "I was better yesterday, but I've got over that." "I care no hopes of your recovery?" "Discovery of what?" "Your discovery of dis confluence of what am I?" "I'm all together on the prognostication with amplification of disease. Should day continue, dis fatal disease, dis doctor thinks I've gone nigh; should they not continue, finally his hope is discolored. Individual won't die till sundown time, but I said before, it all depends on dis question, and till dese come to a head, dere is no telling wedder dis nigger will come to dis continuation or not."

Many of our "slang" sayings, have a classical derivation. When one of the whores calls his comrade a "brick," he is only paying a compliment uttered a thousand years ago. An Eastern prince on being asked, "What are the fortifications of your city?" replied, pointing to his soldiers, "every man you see is a brick."

A witty prelate was once asked if he did not think that such were followed his religion. "Yes," said his grace, "I think he does follow it, as a man does a horse in a gig—he drives it first."

"Is treacle good for a cough?" inquired Jones, who had taken a slight cold, and was barking with considerable energy. "It ought to be," said Brown, "it is sold for consumption."

OTTERS AND POTRY.—Oysters, when considered in the abstract, do not suggest poetic ideas; but in the concrete they are suggestive of one of the modern poets, they are so Shelly.

Man's happiness is said to hang upon a thread. This must be the thread that is never at hand to sew on the shirt button that is always off.

THE LOVED AND LOST ONE.

A JEWISH STORY.

For the Weekly American.

GRAND DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

Extract from the President's Message.

"How ardently I have longed to meet you here, that in close converse we might together might bemoan the woes which, like a mighty flood, have all our hopes and prospects overwhelmed; discuss the causes of this sad event, and, gathering wisdom from our late misdeeds, contrive by what means we may best avert our final doom; how save our sinking ship, which, like a foundered craft, now floats at large, broken and rotten on the swelling wave of schismatical anarchy."

Then Douglas told his muse invoked:

Folded his arms and thus he spoke:

"By consultation with my mutual friends, and in my journey hitherward, I called on Sunday last upon the reverend Sage. For four full hours upon that sacred day, we viewed this subject in its grave aspects, talked and retailed it, scanned and combed it over, discussed its merits, bearings and designs. Its meaning, its end, and all its bitter fruit. And from all that I could hear, or see, or think, I could not tell to which side he inclined. But Buck is with me, mark; I know the man—for he has declared himself on either side, he surely would have stabbed it to the heart. For silence and non-committalism prove him still a hunker true, in spirit, aim and will."

By the President, I must express surprise

The gentleman should now arise,

Our councils to divide;

That he should seek to lead astray

Our party from the appointed way,

To paths we know not of."

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